

Introduction

Good afternoon. My name is Tuyen Vu and I am the dental program manager at the Office of Providers and Pharmacy Programs, Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). I am here to present testimony on amendments to regulation 130 CMR 420.000: Dental Services. Amendments are proposed to be effective no sooner than October 1, 2021.

Background

130 CMR 420.000 contains the regulation governing eligible providers of dental services described in the Current Dental Terminology code set established by the American Dental Association and provided to publicly-aided individuals, including eligible MassHealth members.

Description of Changes

Effective October 1, 2021, the amendments codify updates to restoration of adult dental benefits including crown, endodontic and certain oral surgery services. The amendments also provide instructions on orthodontia for cleft lip & cleft palate and class III malocclusions, in the regulation itself and in Appendix F, Prior Authorization for Interceptive Orthodontic Treatment form. In addition, the proposed amendments provide that orthodontics should not begin until the first premolars and 1st permanent molars have erupted.

Finally, there is language added in the Handicapping Labio-Lingual Deviation (HLD) form, Appendix D, to provide clarifications for orthodontia prior authorization and make certain updates to improve the accuracy of the prior authorization process. The following changes are proposed for the HLD form:

First, Cephalometric radiographs or photographs with a measurement device are required with every case. In lieu of a lateral cephalometric radiograph with measurement device, the provider may submit photo(s) with a measurement device (Boley gauge, disposable ruler, or periodontal probe) in the patient's mouth, or on models mounted in centric occlusion.

Second, a change in the definitions for Labio-Lingual Spread was made. This is used to determine the extent of deviation from a normal arch. The most severe individual measurement should be entered on the index. This category has been updated to score only the arch with the greatest spacing.

Third, a change to the reference point for mandibular protrusion was also made. The reference point has changed to be measured from the labial of the lower permanent incisor to the labial of the upper permanent incisor. This condition must involve two or more adjacent permanent incisors in reverse overjet.

Fourth, a number of auto-qualifiers for orthodontics treatment have been added.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you.